



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Minutes, Oct. 2010

### VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP

### SPY POND COMMITTEE

#### OCTOBER 5, 2010 MEETING

accepted as submitted, Jan. 2011

#### Town Hall Annex, First Floor

**In attendance:** Brad Barber, Bill Eykamp, Jacob Friis, Joey Glushko, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Christina Kasica, Gail McCormick, Robert Monahan, Bob & Harriet Noyes, Stroker Rogovin.

**Facilitator:** Jane Howard

**Minutes:** Elizabeth Karpati

**Next meetings:** 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, November 2, December 7. Town Hall Annex, First Floor.

#### Town Day:

- The display of pictures of the Rt. 2 path workdays drew a lot of attention but few people came to the table to ask questions or pick up literature.
- What do we need to get people to the table? Something interactive? Someone standing in front of the table? Different arrangement, e.g. a U-shape? Fewer items on the table?
- Maybe we should have a particular focus each year, e.g. invasive plants (the Open Space Committee had a display about them this year), or recreation on the pond (display a kayak?). → Keep thinking throughout the year about how to improve the Town Day table. ß
- "Housekeeping" notes: Preparation should start earlier than the meeting preceding Town Day, especially if we are making changes. Set-up and take-down should be better organized. Do we need more staffing at the table?

#### Phragmites:

- The phragmites fund stands at \$9421, including over 400 in new donations. This year's treatment will cost \$3800 plus the fee for the botanist who checked for the endangered sedge and found none in the areas to be sprayed.
- The treatment is scheduled for next week.\* The Con Com has given the Order of Conditions, which include getting rid of the dead stalks and sending the seedheads to the incinerator, and having replanting plans ready by March 2011. Most of the replanting will consist of wetland seed mix, which should be sown before the snow falls, so that the freeze-thaw cycle will work it into the soil. The Con Com is paying for this seed mix. Where additional plants are needed, leftover money from the phragmites fund could be used.
- A work crew will be needed to clear the dead phragmites from Elizabeth Island, probably in January or later, after the island has been sold to the Land Trust and the spraying has worked.

#### Other business:

- The minutes of the September meeting were accepted as presented.
- Speaker: Karsten Hartel next spring, tied in with the EcoFest in March, which will focus on water, and the "Windows on Water" program by Sustainable Arlington on October 21.

- Jane has a book from Richard Smith with a 40-year history of Spy Pond events. Brad has historical material from Nancy Flynn.
- Jacob presented charts that he and his son created from data collected by Bill Eykamp on water clarity (Secchi disk readings 1997-2010) and surface temperature in Spy Pond. They don't show any trends, as different water-clouding algae thrive at different temperatures.
- What project could we advertise in the Census Survey as a recruiting tool?
- MassHighway is talking about repaving the Rt.2 footpath but has not set a date.
- Next meeting, Nov. 2, is Election Day, so we can't take any votes that day.

\* P.S. Weather caused postponement of the spraying, which was finally done on Wed.Oct. 13.